



U.S. Department of the Interior Indian Affairs

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Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Indian Education

Biographical Statement of Joseph Austin Acting Associate Chief Information Officer Office of Information Management Technology

On June 24, 2016, Mr. Joseph 'Joe' Austin assumed the role and responsibilities of Acting Associate Chief Information Officer (ACIO) for the Office of Information Management Technology – Indian Affairs (OIMT-IA). The ACIO is responsible for developing and implementing information resources and technology management policy, procedures, processes and systems to effectively execute all OIMT functions. Mr. Austin also serves as an advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (Management) and other senior Indian Affairs officials on all areas pertaining to information technology, systems, applications and the benefits to our customers.

Joe is a member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. He attended and graduated from Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) School, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI). He began his Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) career as a GS-2 File Clerk, at the Colorado River Agency, in Parker, AZ. He transitioned into the IT field at the Great Plains Regional Office in the then named Information Management Center (IMC) as a mainframe operator, and has remained in the IT field during many technology transitions. During his career with BIA, he has served in various positions in Arizona, South Dakota, Northern Virginia, and New Mexico.

Prior to taking on the responsibilities as Acting ACIO, he held the position of Division Chief, Division of Information Operations for OIMT-IA. As Division Chief, he was responsible for implementing, operating, and maintaining all Indian Affairs related information systems and technology solutions. He also oversaw the Information Operations management in these areas:

- **Data Center Operations** – Responsible for 24/7 operations of one of six Department of Interior (DOI) Core Data Centers. The Albuquerque Data Center (ADC) houses Indian Affairs mission critical and business IT Systems in a state-of-the-art secure facility. The ADC utilizes emerging technologies to provide secure and cost effective operations, and employs industry standard management techniques, practices and methodologies to ensure system reliability, availability, and disaster recovery.
- **Systems** – Responsible for maintaining and operating all IT server hardware and software operations; implementing and supporting virtualization, data storage and data recovery systems.
- **Telecommunications** – Supports all IA wireless, voice, data, video, wide- and local-area networks; and assists in developing and implementing IA-wide telecommunications policy and future enhancements.
- **User Services** – Provides operational problem management resolution support for IA user workstations, network printers, applications, and web browsers; and maintains and operates automated hardware and software inventories connected to both BIA and BIE networks. This includes support at the Central, Regional and Agency Office levels.